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AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
2 a network component operable to employ a) one or more call characteristics to
3 make a determination to initiate a request to a switch component for one or more
4 positions of one or more mobile stations and b) at least one ~~[[or more]]~~ call parameter
5 ~~[[parameters]]~~ to identify one or more cellular network cells associated with the one or
6 more mobile stations, wherein ~~the~~ at least one call parameter ~~of the one or more call~~
7 ~~parameters~~ employed to identify one of the one or more cellular network cells is a
8 telephony number of at least one of the one or more mobile stations; and
9 wherein the network component is operable to receive, in response to the
10 request, the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations from a position
11 component operable to determine the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
12 stations continuously; and
13 wherein the network component comprises one of a magnetic data storage
14 medium, an optical data storage medium, a biological data storage medium, or an
15 atomic data storage medium.

1 2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to perform a comparison of the one or more call characteristics
3 with one or more thresholds to make the determination to initiate the request for the one
4 or more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

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1 3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more
2 call characteristics comprise a pilot signal strength characteristic, and wherein the one
3 or more thresholds comprise a pilot signal strength threshold, and wherein the network
4 component is operable to perform a comparison of the pilot signal strength
5 characteristic with the pilot signal strength threshold; and

6 wherein the network component makes the determination to initiate the request
7 for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations based on a result of the
8 comparison of the pilot signal strength characteristic with the pilot signal strength
9 threshold.

1 4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the network
2 component is operable to employ the one or more call characteristics to create one or
3 more call statistics, and wherein the one or more thresholds comprise one or more call
4 characteristic thresholds and one or more call statistic thresholds; and

5 wherein the network component is operable to perform a comparison of the one
6 or more call statistics with the one or more call statistic thresholds; and

7 wherein the network component is operable to employ a comparison of the one
8 or more call characteristics with the one or more call characteristic thresholds and the
9 comparison of the one or more call statistics with the one or more call statistic
10 thresholds to make the determination to initiate the request.

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1 5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the network
2 component comprises an interface, and wherein the network component is operable to
3 receive the one or more thresholds from a service provider through employment of the
4 interface.

1 6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to employ the determination to initiate the request to promote an
3 avoidance of congestion in one or more cellular network communication paths.

1 7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the network
2 component makes the determination to initiate the request upon an exceedance of the
3 one or more call characteristics relative to one or more thresholds; and
4 wherein upon the exceedance of the one or more call characteristics relative to
5 the one or more thresholds, the network component and the position component are
6 operable to cooperate to obtain the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
7 stations.

1 8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein upon a
2 termination of the exceedance of the one or more call characteristics relative to the one
3 or more thresholds, the network component and the position component are operable to
4 cooperate to discontinue attainment of the one or more positions of the one or more
5 mobile stations.

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1 9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to employ the one or more call characteristics to perform a
3 selection of the one or more mobile stations from a plurality of mobile stations; and
4 wherein the network component is operable to employ the selection to formulate
5 the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations from the
6 plurality of mobile stations.

1 10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more
2 mobile stations are associated with the one or more cellular network cells; and
3 wherein the network component is operable to employ the one or more call
4 characteristics to perform a selection of the one or more cellular network cells from a
5 plurality of cellular network cells; and
6 wherein the network component is operable to employ the selection to formulate
7 the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations that are
8 associated with the one or more cellular network cells.

1 11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the network
2 component is operable to employ the switch component to identify the one or more
3 mobile stations that are associated with the one or more cellular network cells; and
4 wherein the network component is operable to employ the switch component to
5 determine the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations that are
6 associated with the one or more cellular network cells.

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1 12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to receive the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
3 stations in response to the request; and

4 wherein the network component is operable to employ the one or more positions
5 of the one or more mobile stations and the one or more call characteristics to develop a
6 coverage map.

1 13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
2 the switch component that is operable to provide the one or more call
3 characteristics to the network component;

4 wherein the network component is operable to employ the one or more call
5 characteristics to make a determination to initiate a request to the switch component;
6 and

7 wherein the switch component is operable to obtain the one or more positions of
8 the one or more mobile stations based on the request to the switch component.

1 14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network
2 component is operable to provide to the switch component the at least one [[or more]]
3 call parameter [[parameters]]; and

4 wherein the switch component is operable to employ the at least one [[or more]]
5 call parameter [[parameters]] to perform an identification of the one or more mobile
6 stations from a plurality of mobile stations; and

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7 wherein the switch component is operable to employ the identification of the one
8 or more mobile stations from the plurality of mobile stations to obtain the one or more
9 positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 15. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the one or more
2 mobile stations are associated with one or more calls; and

3 wherein the switch component is operable to employ the at least one [[or more]]
4 call parameter [[parameters]] to perform an identification of the one or more calls from a
5 plurality of calls; and

6 wherein the switch component is operable to employ the identification of the one
7 or more calls from the plurality of calls to obtain the one or more positions of the one or
8 more mobile stations that are associated with the one or more calls.

1 16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network
2 component and the switch component are operable to receive the one or more positions
3 of the one or more mobile stations from the position component; and

4 wherein the network component and the switch component are operable to
5 cooperate to develop a coverage map through employment of the one or more positions
6 of the one or more mobile stations.

1 17. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the position
2 component is operable to employ one or more of an Enhanced Forward Link
3 Trilateration algorithm and an IS-801 solution using an Assisted Global Positioning
4 System (AGPS), Advanced Forward Link Trilateration (AFLT) or combined AGPS/AFLT
5 algorithm to determine the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

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1 18. (Currently amended) A method, comprising the steps of:

2 initiating a request from a network component to a switch component for one or
3 more positions of one or more mobile stations through employment of a) one or more
4 call characteristics and b) at least one [[or more]] call parameter [[parameters]] to
5 identify one or more cellular network cells associated with the one or more mobile
6 stations, wherein the at least one call parameter ~~of the one or more call parameters~~
7 employed to identify one of the one or more cellular network cells is a telephony number
8 of at least one of the one or more mobile stations;

9 receiving, in response to the request, the one or more positions of the one or
10 more mobile stations; and

11 determining the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations
12 continuously;

13 wherein the network component comprises one of a magnetic data storage
14 medium, an optical data storage medium, a biological data storage medium, or an
15 atomic data storage medium.

1 19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the step of
2 initiating the request from the network component to the switch component for the one
3 or more positions of the one or more mobile stations through employment of the one or
4 more call characteristics further comprises the steps of:

5 performing a comparison of the one or more call characteristics with one or more
6 thresholds; and

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7 initiating the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
8 stations based on the comparison.

1 20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of inflating
2 the request from the network component to the switch component for the one or more
3 positions of the one or more mobile stations based on the comparison further comprises
4 the steps of:

5 determining the at least one [[or more]] call parameter [[parameters]] associated
6 with the one or more thresholds;

7 identifying the one or more mobile stations from a plurality of mobile stations
8 through employment of the at least one [[or more]] call parameter [[parameters]]; and

9 initiating the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
10 stations through employment of the at least one [[or more]] call parameter
11 [[parameters]].

1 21. (Canceled)

1 22. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the position
2 component is pre-provisioned with one or more intervals of time to determine the one or
3 more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the thresholds
2 provide a measure of a quality level of service provided to the one or more mobile
3 stations.

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1 24. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to employ the at least one [[or more]] call parameter
3 [[parameters]] to identify i) the one or more cellular network cells associated with the
4 one or more mobile stations or ii) the one or more mobile stations.

1 25. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component is operable to limit a number of requests for the one or more positions of the
3 one or more mobile stations based on a comparison of the one or more call
4 characteristics with one or more thresholds.

1 26. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein one of the one
2 or more call statistics is a number of dropped calls within an hour.

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